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MEMORANDUM

TO: Committee for Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Newfoundland and Labrador

FROM: The Honourable Steven Guilbeault, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Canada
The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, Canada
The Honourable Andrew Parsons, KC, Minister of Industry, Energy and Technology, Newfoundland and Labrador
The Honourable Bernard Davis, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Newfoundland and Labrador
The Honourable Andrew Furey, Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs, Newfoundland and Labrador

DATE: March 15, 2024

RE: Request for Amendments to the Agreement to Conduct a Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Newfoundland and Labrador

A. PURPOSE

With this Memorandum the federal Ministers of Environment and Climate Change and Energy and Natural Resources and the provincial Ministers of Industry, Energy and Technology, Environment and Climate Change and Intergovernmental Affairs together agree to the following amendments to the *Agreement to Conduct a Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Newfoundland and Labrador* in response to the request made by the Committee conducting the Regional Assessment of offshore wind energy development in Newfoundland and Labrador (NL OSW RA) on October 18, 2023.

B. AMENDMENTS

1. Agreement – Section 1.0 Regional Assessment Goal, Objectives and Scope

1.4 The Study Area for the Regional Assessment is as defined in Figure 1.1 below. The Study Area comprises portions of the Offshore Area where future offshore wind development activities may be technically and economically feasible, based on current and foreseeable technologies. It does not include or exclude specific locations or features based on potential environmental, health, social or economic effects, in order to allow the Regional Assessment to provide a complete and fulsome analysis of these issues across this region, to inform future decision-making. For greater clarity, the inclusion or exclusion of specific portions of the Offshore Area in the Study Area does not reflect whether particular locations will or should be subject to future offshore wind development activities.

The Study Area therefore comprises the geographic region within which the Regional Assessment will help inform future decisions around whether particular locations may be subject to future licencing processes for offshore wind development activities, as well as the impact assessments of any such development activities. *The Committee may, after seeking information and advice from the advisory groups described in section A1.6 of the Terms of Reference and after engaging with Indigenous peoples, governmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals that have information, knowledge or interests relevant to the Regional Assessment, identify potentially suitable areas for future offshore wind development activities in the Study Area (based on technical and economic factors), and focus the Regional Assessment on those key locations.*

2. Agreement - Section 6.0 Report and Records

6.2 The Committee will complete its work and submit its Report (all components) to the Ministers within 22 months of the public announcement of the appointment of its members. Further information on the timing of particular aspects of the Committee's work and associated reporting on these is provided in Appendix A.

3. Terms of Reference - Section A3 Schedule of the APPENDIX A

A3.1 The Committee will complete its work in a phased manner and will, following the public review of a draft as referenced in Section A1.6 above, submit the various components of its Report to the Ministers as follows:

Report Component	Overview	Relevant Components (From Sections A2.3 and A2.4 Above)	Submission to Ministers
Interim report	Information and analysis to inform future planning and licensing for offshore wind in the Study Area	<p>Will be provided in the form of an interim report that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary recommendations of particular locations that may be suitable for future licencing processes for offshore wind development activities, and the rationale behind these recommendations. • Information and knowledge gaps identified to date with relevance to and implications for future licencing processes, and any preliminary recommendations to address such information and knowledge gaps as appropriate. • Engagement outcomes to date. <p>This information and analysis will continue to be updated for the final report.</p>	12 months from Committee appointment*
Report	Identification of, and recommendations on, mitigation, and other approaches to address potential effects, and monitoring and follow-up requirements, to inform future impact assessments for offshore wind in the Study Area, with particular attention to the focus areas established in the interim report.	<p>Section A 2.3 Objective A, items a) to d) Objective B, item a) Objective C, items a) to b) Objective D, item a) to b) Section A 2.4 Items a) to e)</p>	22 months from Committee appointment *

* As noted above, the Committee may choose to present information in an electronic format, such as through a GIS. While this information is part of the interim report (and any such GIS is therefore to be submitted with 12 months), it is recognized that the system may continue to be refined during the remainder of the Regional Assessment process, and that an updated version may be included in the Committee's final deliverable (at 22 months).

4. Terms of Reference - Section A3 Schedule of the APPENDIX A

A3.3 The Committee will submit its final Report (all components outlined in the above table, including final GIS as applicable) to the Ministers within 22 months of the public announcement of the appointment of its members by the federal Minister of Environment.

C. SIGNATURES

This Memorandum may be signed by the parties in counterpart.

<Original signed by>

Date

The Honourable Steven Guilbeault
Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Canada

Date

The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson
Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, Canada

Date

The Honourable Andrew Parsons, KC
Minister of Industry, Energy and Technology,
Newfoundland and Labrador

Date

The Honourable Bernard Davis
Minister of Environment and Climate Change,
Newfoundland and Labrador

Date

The Honourable Andrew Furey
Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs,
Newfoundland and Labrador

C. SIGNATURES

This Memorandum may be signed by the parties in counterpart.

Date
The Honourable Steven Guilbeault
Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Canada

March 11, 2024
Date
<Original signed by> _____
The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson
Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, Canada

Date
The Honourable Andrew Parsons, KC
Minister of Industry, Energy and Technology,
Newfoundland and Labrador

Date
The Honourable Bernard Davis
Minister of Environment and Climate Change,
Newfoundland and Labrador

Date
The Honourable Andrew Furey
Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs,
Newfoundland and Labrador

C. SIGNATURES

This Memorandum may be signed by the parties in counterpart.

Date The Honourable Steven Guilbeault
Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Canada

Date The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson
Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, Canada
<Original signed by>

MAR 12 2024

Date The Honourable Andrew Parsons, KC
Minister of Industry, Energy and Technology,
Newfoundland and Labrador

<Original signed by>

MAR 12 2024

Date The Honourable Bernard Davis
Minister of Environment and Climate Change,
Newfoundland and Labrador

<Original signed by>

MAR 14 2024

Date The Honourable Andrew Furey
Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs,
Newfoundland and Labrador